Authors Lives in Their Writings

Ever wonder how authors write their books? Edgar Allan Poe had a tough life because he was abandoned at an early age and this shows up in his writings. S.E. Hinton’s life also shows up in her novel, The Outsiders. When readers look into the lives of authors, parts of their books can be present.

Due to all of the death in Poe’s life, he wrote about death most of the time. Good portions of his writings include death, misery, and depressing images or visualizations. In his poem “The Raven” the entire story is the narrator mourning his lost love and the raven saying things he doesn’t want to hear. Also in his poem “Annabelle Lee” he describes how much he misses his dear wife. Since most of his writings include death, one can infer that he does so because of his father leaving him at age two and his mother dying of tuberculosis when he was three. His foster mother then later died of tuberculosis when he was 20. Lastly, when his wife died at age twenty-four of tuberculosis as well, he insinuated that he was cursed and that the women he spent the most time around would die. This is why Poe writes consecutively about death of misery.

The personal life of S.E. Hinton, author of The Outsiders, influenced her book in these ways. S.E. Hinton wrote The Outsiders when she was 16 so the book is literally a book by a teen for teens. In her letter to the reader, she stated that she was mad about the social situation in her high school. She wrote the book about how teens act normally around each other. It is in these ways that she has influenced her book.

Authors write about their lives more than most people think. On one hand, Poe wrote about the misery he felt throughout is life as the women he surrounded himself with died of the exact same disease. On the other hand, S.E. Hinton wrote about the social division she experienced as a teen in high school. The books we read every day can be a door into their personal lives and experiences.